



**Ormiston  
Sheffield**  
Community Academy

# Numeracy Policy

**Policy reviewed: December 2020**

**Next review date: December 2021**

**M. Garcia**



## **Developing Numeracy at Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy**

We have a commitment to developing the numeracy skills of all students, regardless of age or ability

Numeracy is a life skill. Being numerate goes beyond simply 'doing sums'; it means having the confidence and competence to use numbers and think mathematically in everyday life.

Everyone needs to be numerate to maximise their life chances and to make a positive contribution to society. There is substantial evidence that low numeracy skills are associated with poor outcomes for many people. This has a negative impact on them and their families – and on society as a whole.

### **Examples of Numeracy**

- Being able to critically assess statistics used by advertisers or politicians.
- Being able to manage family budgets – credit cards, offers at supermarkets and so on.
- Being able to estimate – in all kinds of situations, e.g. journey speed, time and distance, roughly how much a bill will be or your expected bank balance at the end of the month.

Where possible, staff will provide opportunities for students to develop their numeracy skills and provide opportunities to use these skills in 'everyday life' situations. Staff will aim to understand the numeracy demands of their subjects and support these through learning and teaching.

### **Entitlement of Students**

- All students are entitled to support in developing their numeracy skills, regardless of age and ability. This may be through their usual maths lessons, during registration time or extra intervention sessions.
- All students will be encouraged to see the relevance of effective numeracy skills in the wider world. This may be through registration time activities, PSHE, subject content, finance education opportunities
- Through the Y7 & Y8 Catch-up Programme and extra numeracy lessons, some students will be entitled to extra opportunities to strengthen their numeracy skills.
- Nurture Group students have the use of numeracy learning mats to support them with elements of the science, geography, music, technology and ICT curriculum.

### **Entitlement of Staff**

- All staff will be entitled to training and support to provide them with the skills to explicitly teach the numeracy demands of their subject.
- All staff should have access to resources that assists them in explicitly teaching the numeracy demands of their subject.
- All staff are entitled to feedback via lesson observations to allow them to improve their pedagogic practice and better support students' numeracy development.



### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- The quality of numeracy teaching and learning will be monitored via the academy's formal lesson observation programme and other quality assurance methods.
- Regular audits of numeracy in teaching and learning will be carried out.
- Data will be used to identify students in need of intervention and appropriate opportunities for support will be arranged.
- Numeracy initiatives will run on an on-going basis for varying groups of students, using links with the local community where appropriate. Progress will be monitored and reported to staff and parents.

### **What can parents/carers to do help their child with numeracy/maths?**

The most important thing to do is help your child to feel positive about maths and have fun with it whenever possible. In the UK people are often negative about maths and this makes it harder for children to understand the reasons why we need to learn maths. We acknowledge that as adults we have a responsibility to promote positive attitudes towards numeracy.